

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OIC-04 DRC-01 ARA-16 EUR-25

NEA-10 /182 W

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R 281605Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO USMISSION USUN NY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6805

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 1 8 3 2

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, TO, KN, KS, UN

SUBJ: KOREA IN 28TH UNGA: OPPOSITION RES

REF: LOME 1816 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER HUNLEDE CLAIMS TOGOLESE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF UNFRIENDLY KOREAN RES AT UNGA WAS TOTALLY UNAUTHORIZED. HE IS NOT, HOWEVER, NOW WILLING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. ALTHOUGH I HAVE NO ILLUSIONS THAT IT WILL PRODUCE RESULTS, AT LEAST IN KOREAN CASE, I BELIEVE I SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO SEE PRESIDENT EYADEMA UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN OVER DRAMATIC SHIFT IN TRADITIONAL TOGOLESE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE.

1. I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER HUNLEDE 27 OCTOBER TO EXPRESS MY SURPRISE AND CHAGRIN OVER TOGO'S SPONSORSHIP AT UNGA OF
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UNFRIENDLY DRAFT RES ON KOREAN QUESTION. I SAID I WAS NOT ACTING

UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, HAVING BEEN INFORMED THUS FAR ONLY OF GENERAL CONTENT OF RES AND OF FACT OF TOGOLESE CO-SPONSORSHIP, BUT THAT I FELT MYSELF OBLIGED TO EXPLAIN TO MY GOVERNMENT HOW TOGO COULD APPEAR AS CO-SPONSOR OF SUCH A RESOLUTION ALONG WITH STATES GENERALLY CONSIDERED UN'S EXTREME LEFT WING, A GROUP TOGO WAS NOT NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH IN THE MINDS OF OTHERS.

2. HUNLEDE SAID HE HAD LEARNED ONLY ON PREVIOUS DAY OF TOGOLESE COSPONSORSHIP WHEN KOREAN CHARGE TELEPHONED MINISTRY OFFICER TO ASK HOW GOT COULD HAVE SPONSORED UNFRIENDLY RES. HUNLEDE SAID TOGOLESE CO-SPONSORSHIP WAS TOTALLY UNAUTHORIZED AND HE HAD THUS IMMEDIATELY SENT CABLE TO TOGOLESE PERMREP TOGBE DEMANDING EXPLANATION. TOGO, HE SAID, HAD FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS AND UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES ITS ONLY POSSIBLE POSITION ON KOREAN QUESTION WAS ABSTENTION. TOGBE HAD NO AUTHORITY CO-SPONSOR ANY IMPORTANT RES WITHOUT CONSULTING FOREIGN MINISTER. IN FACT TOGBE HAD BEEN SENT TO UN BECAUSE FORMER PERMREP EKLO (A CURRENTLY RISING STAR IN TOGOLESE FIRMAMENT) HAD HAD TO BE WITHDRAWN FOR NOT FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS (ON CHIREP).

3. I THANKED HUNLEDE FOR HIS EXPLANATION AND SAID I HOPED ERROR COULD NOW BE CORRECTED. HUNLEDE SAID, ALAS, IT WAS TOO LATE. TOGO COULD NOT WITHDRAW ITS SPONSORSHIP. I POINTED OUT THAT I HAD SEEN SPONSORS WITHDRAW WHEN I WAS AT UN, BUT HE CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN WITHDRAWAL WAS IMPOSSIBLE. HE DID NOT RISE TO MY SUGGESTION THAT MINIMUM, THOUGH FAR FROM SATISFACTORY, ACTION WOULD BE FOR TOGO TO BE ABSENT FROM VOTE ON ISSUE.

4. CO-SPONSORSHIP OF RES DID NOT, HUNLEDE INSISTED, REPRESENT OFFICIAL TOGOLESE POSITION. I REPLIED THAT I KNEW THIS (SIC), BUT THAT AS LONG AS DOCUMENT EXISTED IN UN WITH TOGO'S NAME ON IT, RES WOULD REFLECT TOGO'S OFFICIAL POSITION IN EYES OF EVERYONE. HUNLEDE SAID HE WOULD EXPLAIN TOGO'S POSITION WHEN HE GOT TO UN AROUND 10 OR 11 OCTOBER. THERE WAS NOTHING MORE HE COULD DO UNTIL THEN.

5. ALTHOUGH I HAD HOPED THAT HUNLEDE'S USUAL SLOWNESS IN REPLYING TO REQUESTS FOR AUDIENCE WOULD RESULT IN MY SEEING PRESIDENT FIRST, HE HAD SPOILED MY PLAN BY RECEIVING ME PROMPTLY. I THUS THOUGHT IT DESIRABLE, FOR TACTICAL REASONS, TO TELL HIM THAT ALTHOUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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I HAD ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT, I WOULD NOW NOT REQUIRE IT, HAVING RECEIVED HIS EXPLANATION THAT CO-SPONSORSHIP DID NOT REFLECT TOGOLESE POLICY. I SAID I WOULD, HOWEVER, MENTION MY CONCERN TO PRESIDENT, WHEN I NEXT SAW HIM ON ANY BUSINESS, THAT TOGO, WHICH ONLY RECENTLY WAS STILL CO-SPONSORING WITH US FRIENDLY RESES ON KOREA, NOW APPEARED AS CO-SPONSOR OF DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSING ONES. I ASKED HUNLEDE TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF MY CONCERN.

6. SUBSEQUENT TO MY MEETING WITH HUNLEDE, I SAW KOREAN CHARGE HUH. LATTER, WHO SPEAKS GOOD FRENCH, SAID HE HAD EXPLAINED KOREAN POSITION IN DETAIL AND WELL IN ADVNACE TO PRESIDENT, HUNLEDE, (SEVERAL TIMES), AND OTHER FONMIN OFFICIALS. PRESIDENT AND SOME OF OFFICIALS HAD PROMISED SUPPORT SOUTH KOREA, WHILE HUNLEDE HAD SAID TOGO WOULD HAVE TO ABSTAIN ON KOREAN ISSUE. HUH IS ABSOLUTELY CONVINCED THAT HUNLEDE IS LYING WHEN HE SAYS CO-SPONSORSHIP WAS UNAUTHORIZED. I AM RELUCTANTLY FORCED TO CONCUR IN HUH'S EVALUATION. IT IS TYPICAL OF HUNLEDE TO CAST BLAME FOR ANY UNPOPULAR ACTION ON OTHERS, AS HE DID IN SEVERAL VERY DEVIOUS WAYS WITH RESPECT TO CHIREP. (EVEN NOW HE IS TELLING HIS SHOCKED MINA FRIENDS THAT BREAK WITH ISRAEL IS NOT OF HIS DOING.) HE IS SO TOTALLY UNTRUSTWORTHY THAT ONE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE IN THIS CASE THAT HE HAS DONE IT AGAIN. HUH THINKS HUNLEDE MAY HAVE TAKEN NORTH KOREAN BRIBE FOR THIS SERVICE. WHETHER OR NOT HE HAS, IT IS CLEAR TO ME FROM RUPTURE OF RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL THAT TOGOLESE FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS ARE FOR SALE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DESPITE THIS, AND WITH NO ILLUSION THAT IT WILL CHANGE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO KOREAN ITEM, I STILL WOULD LIKE TO LET PRESIDENT KNOW THAT WE ARE CONCERNED OVER DRAMATIC SHIFT OF TOGO FROM SUPPORT OF US POSITION ON KOREA IN UN TO A LEADING OPPOSITION POSITION. FOR TACTICAL REASONS, AND TO HAVE GREATEST EFFECT, I SHOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO TELL HUNLEDE AND PRESIDENT THAT I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY MY GOVERNMENT TO DO SO. I BELIEVE IT HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT I SEE PRESIDENT ON THIS, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE HIS TRIP TO TRIPOLI IN EARLY OCTOBER. I THUS REQUEST THAT I BE AUTHORIZE
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